

SENATE BILL NO. 482

BY SENATOR CASSIDY

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3137, relative to dual enrollment of students; to provide relative to the
3 participation of certain students, including students in nonpublic high schools and
4 home school programs; in the dual enrollment program established by the Board of
5 Regents; to provide relative to a study by the Board of Regents to determine the cost
6 of providing state dollars for the participation in the dual enrollment program of
7 otherwise eligible students who attend nonpublic high schools or participate in home
8 study programs; to provide study guidelines; to provide for a written report; and to
9 provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 17:3137 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 **§3137. Dual enrollment program; legislative findings; eligible participants**

13 **A.(1) The legislature hereby finds and declares that the dual enrollment**
14 **program established by the Board of Regents has enhanced curricular options**
15 **available to eligible high school students by providing an opportunity to enroll**
16 **in postsecondary coursework creditable toward a career certificate or an**
17 **associate or baccalaureate degree.**

18 **(2) The legislature further finds that the availability of successful dual**
19 **enrollment opportunities will increase the academic performance and**
20 **educational attainment for all Louisiana students.**

21 **B. The Board of Regents shall provide for the participation of any**
22 **student who meets the following requirements:**

23 **(1) Is enrolled in a Louisiana public high school.**

24 **(2) Is at least fifteen years of age.**

25 **(3) Is currently in the eleventh or twelfth grade.**

1 (4) Meets any other eligibility criteria as the Board of Regents may
2 require.

3 C. Any student who is enrolled in a Louisiana nonpublic high school or
4 participates in a home school program of education and who meets the
5 eligibility requirements as specified in Paragraphs (B)(2), (3), and (4) of this
6 Section shall be eligible to participate in the Board of Regents dual enrollment
7 program. State funds shall not be used to pay the tuition of a nonpublic high
8 school student or a home study student who is dually enrolled in a participating
9 postsecondary institution. However, the amount of tuition charged to such
10 students shall be the same as is paid by the state on behalf of a student attending
11 a public high school.

12 D. The Board of Regents, in consultation with the Louisiana Student
13 Financial Assistance Commission, shall study and report in writing to the
14 Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education by not
15 later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session of the
16 legislature on the estimated cost of providing state dollars, beginning with Fiscal
17 Year 2009-2010 and continuing thereafter, to fund participation in the dual
18 enrollment program of otherwise eligible students who attend nonpublic high
19 schools, both state-approved schools as well as others, or participate in home
20 study programs, both state-approved programs as well as others, in the same
21 manner as provided for eligible students attending public high schools.
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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____